

## APPENDIX C

### BYLAWS OF THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

#### TROPHY AND AWARDS COMPETITIONS

##### Section 1.01 OUTLINE OF COMPETITIONS:

#### A. GENERAL

Each host club of a Texas Association of Magicians Convention shall sponsor magical competitions to encourage magicians to improve their skills and to contribute to the advancement of magic as an art. To this objective, the Texas Association of Magicians will provide trophies to be awarded to the winners proclaiming their accomplishments.

Any person registered for the Annual Convention will be eligible to compete provided he/she:

1. Has timely submitted a visual recording of the act (if required by the host club and if competing in any of the stage contests) along with a completed application with the host club to compete at the Annual Convention.
2. Has received notification of acceptance from the host club.
3. Receives no compensation of any kind for his/her appearance at the Annual Convention. Immediately after the contest winners have been announced and the awards presented, all contestants are relieved of this restriction.

Trophies may be awarded in the following categories:

1. Senior Close-Up
2. Senior Stage
3. Senior Club
4. Senior Comedy
5. Junior Close-Up
6. Junior Stage
7. Junior Club
8. Junior Comedy
9. Best of Convention

#### B. DEFINITIONS

**Senior:** A contestant eighteen years of age or older.

**Junior:** A contestant seventeen years of age or younger.

**Close-Up:** Magic performed for a small intimate audience.

**Stage:** Magic effects suitable a theater stage, including but not limited to illusions and effects involving more than one person or using animals.

**Club:** Magic effects most suited for a club or cabaret audience.

**Comedy:** Magic intentionally of a comic nature.

**Best of Convention:** An additional trophy may be awarded to a contestant if, in the opinion of the judges, one act was of such outstanding, superior quality as to merit such distinction. This trophy shall be known as the "Herman Yerger Trophy" and the nameplate shall bear such designation, together with the winner's name, category, year and place of the Annual Convention, in addition to the words. "Best Act of the Convention". The

base of this trophy may be larger than those awarded to the category winners.

### **C. JUDGES**

The judges may change the category of an act if it is inappropriate or if they deem it to be an advantage to the contestant.

The identity of the judges shall be kept confidential until after the contest(s) have been concluded.

### **D. AWARDS**

The names of winners will be kept confidential until the public announcement is made.

In case of ties, duplicate trophies will be awarded. No trophy will be awarded in categories with fewer than three contestants unless an act is judged as particularly outstanding. Regardless of the number of contestants in a category, no trophy will be awarded if, in the opinion of the judges, no act conforms to the high standards commensurate with the prestige of the T.A.O.M. trophy.

An announcement will be made prior to the presentation of the trophies that partial funding for these trophies was made possible by a donation from the A. Renerick Clark Memorial Trust Fund.

The announcement of the winners and the presentation of awards will be made during the Annual Convention by the Chairman of the Trophy and Awards Committee or a deputy. The names of all contestants in each category will be read before the winner is announced. No mention will be made of rankings. If awarded, the Best of Convention trophy will be the final award announced. The trophies and awards are permanent and become the property of the winners.

### **E. GENERAL CONTEST RULES**

1. Applications to compete must be received by the host club at least fifteen days prior to the start of the Annual Convention. If an act is withdrawn within the fifteen days prior to the Annual Convention, this rule may be waived and the Contest Chairman may grant eligibility to a replacement act.
2. The host club will notify each applicant of acceptance or rejection of the application at least seven days before the start of the Annual Convention.
3. The host club has the discretion to limit the number of acts to fit their time schedule.
4. Each act will be no more than ten minutes. An act exceeding the time limit will be penalized one point for each ten seconds over time. An act exceeding twelve minutes is disqualified.
5. The use of "inappropriate" material or "blue" material is discouraged. If such material is presented during the act, in the opinion of the judges, the act is disqualified.

6. Acts will be judged on the following point system:
- STAGE SETTING – 0 to 10 points.  
General appearance, eye appeal, attractiveness and appropriateness of dress, props, tables and equipment.
  
  - STAGE PRESENCE – 0 to 15 points.  
Poise and confidence, intelligible speech, direct and understandable theme.
  
  - ENTERTAINMENT VALUE – 0 to 30 points.  
Indicated by audience reaction, appreciation and overall enjoyment.
  
  - PRESENTATION AND OVERALL PERFORMANCE – 0 to 30 points  
Personality, projection, routining and continuity, professional presentation and technical ability.
  
  - ORIGINALITY – 0 to 15 points.  
Original material, inventive presentation or routining to include new presentations of standard effects – “something different”
7. Scoring: Discard high and low scores of each act. Average the remaining three scores to ascertain the contestant’s score.

## **F. REVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **1. The Secretary of the T.A.O.M.**

- a. Notify the Representative from each club to supply, before August 1, to the Vice President, the name, address and telephone number of three prospective judges.
- b. Provide the host club copies of this Appendix C for applicants.
- c. Meet with the Vice President, Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman and the judges and provide each judge a copy of this Appendix C, a list of the contestants and the category they entered, and contest score sheets.
- d. Meet with the Vice President, Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman and the judges with materials to compute scores.
- e. Provide T.A.O.M. trophies to the Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman at the Annual Convention.
- f. Mail to each contestant the statistical results of the contest entered, the judges comments and a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the T.A.O.M. President.
- g. Design, purchase and mail the trophy frontplates to contest winners.
- h. Provide the Contest Judging Forms and adequate tools for the judges (i.e. clipboards or folders, pens or pencils, judging sheets, a list of the performers, and flashlights for the stage judges).

### **2. The T.A.O.M. Vice-President.**

- a. Appoint five judges for every contest. Judges should represent as many different clubs as possible.
- b. Meet with the Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman, the judges and the Secretary to compute scores.

- c. Keep or have kept a record of the exact time of each contestant's act.

### **3. The Host Club.**

- a. Make available to all applicants the contest forms. The application to compete may be part of the T.A.O.M. mailings or bulletins describing the manner in which the applicant may apply to compete. Such description shall be specific as to deadlines, visual recording requirements (i.e. non-returnable, etc.) and any limitations (i.e. number of contestants per category) so imposed by the Contest Chairman.
- b. Notify all applicants at least seven days before the start of the Annual Convention whether or not their applications have been accepted.
- c. Provide a copy of this Appendix C to each contestant accepted at least seven days before the start of the Annual Convention.
- d. Provide the Secretary a list of competitor's names, contact information and contest entered as soon as practical after the entry deadline.
- e. Before the contest, provide a meeting of the contestants and the Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman.

### **4. The Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman.**

- a. Before the contest, meet with the Vice-President and the contestants to answer questions, note any changes in the schedule and then inform the Secretary of such changes.
- b. After the contest, meet with the Vice-President, judges and Secretary to compute scores.
- c. Announce the winners and present their awards at that Annual Convention.

## **G. GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES**

It is recommended that Judges should:

1. Have a credible, working knowledge of the area they are judging.
2. Have a base of comparison gleaned from personal experience and attendance at previous magic conventions.
3. If possible, have experience as a judge in other magic competitions
4. Be able to communicate well with others.
5. Be able to make objective decisions, about subjective matters.
6. Willing to stand by their opinions and convictions.
7. Meet with contestants for purposes of critiquing their act and express opinions in an instructional, helpful and objective way.
8. May have other expertise instead of or outside of magic (i.e. drama, dance, theater, or other allied arts)